IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 3-5 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A balance management system for managing balances occurring in each of a plurality of processes, the system comprising:

information acquiring means for acquiring, for a process, first information on a process item and a balance amount associated with the process item, wherein the first information is acquired from a first terminal corresponding to the process;

information management means for managing, for the process, second information on a balance of a balance item and third information on a correspondence between ~~for each process that a~~ said balance of ~~which~~ said balance item ~~reflects~~ and the ~~a~~ balance amount of ~~which~~ said process item;

~~information acquiring means for acquiring information on a process item and a balance amount corresponding to the process item, from a first terminal corresponding to each process;~~

information updating means for updating the second information on the balance of the balance item ~~corresponding to the process item~~, on the basis of the third information ~~on the correspondence~~ managed by the information management means and the first information ~~on the process item and the balance amount~~ acquired by the information acquiring means;

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information providing means for providing a second terminal with the second information ~~on the balance item and the balance for~~ corresponding to one or more processes managed by the information management means; and

first means for enabling a flexible setting of the third information ~~on the~~ ~~correspondence~~ according to a user's ~~intention~~ input.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The balance management system according to claim 1, wherein the first means provides a program ~~for giving a setting operation function of the~~ ~~information on the correspondence to~~ to a third terminal for enabling the setting of the third information according to the user's input at ~~a~~ the third terminal.

4. (Currently Amended) The balance management system according to claim 1, further comprising second means comprising ~~for enabling a selection of a~~ configuration means for configuring a display ~~pattern~~ of the second information on the balance of the balance item according to the user's ~~intention~~ input and a display means for displaying the configured display of the second information ~~according to the selected pattern~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The balance management system according to claim 4, wherein the second means provides a program to the second terminal for configuring a display of the second information on the balance of the balance item according to the

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user's input at the second terminal ~~for giving the second terminal a selecting operation function of a display pattern of the information on the balance of the balance item and a display function of the information on the balance of the balance item according to the selected pattern through the selecting operation~~.